

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for inspecting fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in a body, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva.
2. (Currently amended) A method for inspecting migration of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors contained in ingested health supplements, drugs or foods into a body, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the inspecting is conducted ~~on the basis of~~ by comparing with concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of subjects before ingestion of the health supplements, drugs or foods, or by comparing with the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in the parotid saliva of a control group ingesting no health supplements, drugs or foods.
4. (Currently Amended) A method for inspecting effect or action of an administered therapeutic agent on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, comprising
analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva as indicators, wherein an increase or decrease in the amount of the vitamins or food factors in the parotid saliva of the subject after being administered with a therapeutic agent compared with either the concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in parotid saliva of subjects before taking the therapeutic agent, or compared with the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble

- food factors in parotid saliva of a control group not having taken the therapeutic agent determines the effect of the therapeutic agent on the biosynthesis and metabolism of the vitamins and/or food factors.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or [[an]] intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, ~~wherein the method uses a~~ comprising
carrying out the method according to claim 2, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.
7. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing suitability ~~of administration for administering or a dosage of dosing~~ a therapeutic agent having effect or action on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors, ~~wherein the method uses a~~ comprising carrying out the method according to claim 4, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 1, wherein the parotid saliva is collected using a saliva collecting tool which collects parotid saliva selectively and quantitatively.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the saliva collecting tool has (a) a collection part comprising an absorber for absorbing saliva irreversibly and (b) a quantification part for quantifying the amount of saliva collected to the absorber.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the saliva collecting tool has further a storage container part for holding a saliva preservative solution in which the absorber with the absorbed saliva is dipped to preserve.
12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the saliva preservative solution is a water-soluble organic solvent.
13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising:
 - (a) ~~a process for extracting [the] collected saliva [, the] from an~~ absorber with [the] absorbed saliva, and/or [the] ~~a preservative solution with [the] preserved absorber with a~~ water-soluble organic solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
 - (b) ~~a process for using the extract as an analysis sample to separate~~ separating the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors from the extract by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
 - (c) ~~a process for~~ detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.
14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from [[a]] the group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene, β -carotene and tocopherol.
15. (Currently amended) A method for screening drugs or health supplements, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 1, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.
16. (Currently amended) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or an intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 3, and determining

whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.

17. (Currently amended) A method for assessing suitability of administration or a dosage of a therapeutic agent having effect or action on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 5, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.
18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 12, comprising:
 - (a) ~~a process for~~ extracting the collected saliva, the absorber with the absorbed saliva, and/or the preservative solution with the preserved absorber with a water-soluble organic solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
 - (b) ~~a process for using the extract as an analysis sample to separate~~ separating the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors from the extract by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
 - (c) ~~a process for~~ detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.
19. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from [[a]] the group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene, β -carotene and tocopherol.
20. (Currently amended) A method for screening drugs or health supplements, comprising carrying out the method according to claim 14, and determining whether to ingest the health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors based on the results.